

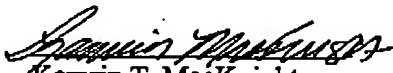
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REMARKS

The present application was originally filed with 17 Claims. In the present Restriction Requirement, the Examiner has restricted the Claims into two Groups, with Claims 1-6 and 8-16 drawn to a method of producing a library of mutant nucleic acid molecules in Group I; and Claims 7 and 17, drawn to a method further comprising (f) transforming said mutant template nucleic acids from said library into a competent host cell, (g) expressing protein corresponding to said mutant nucleic acids in said host cell, and (h) screening said expressed proteins for desired characteristics, in Group II. The Examiner argues that the Groups represent separate and patentably distinct methods because they use different steps, require different reagents and/or will produce different results. While Applicants must respectfully traverse the restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect the Claims in Group I (Claims 1-16 and 8-16). The Examiner has also required a species election. Applicants hereby elect enzymes as recited in Claims 6 and 16. Applicants request that the remaining species be examined, upon the determination that the enzymes species are patentable. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled Claim in a Divisional application. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this application, he is encouraged to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 15 July 03


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